

# Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

APRIL 2, 1965

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HON. PAUL MARTIN TO SPEAK

## Community Honours Alex Betcherman At J.N.F. Negev Dinner Monday Night

### Arnold Lithwick Named Chairman United Jewish Appeal Campaign

Arnold Lithwick, a vice-president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir and one of the Jewish community's ablest business executives has assumed the general chairmanship of the 1965 United Jewish Appeal. He has been a strong advocate of Zionist activity and a leading proponent of Jewish education for many years.

Mr. Lithwick has been at work for several weeks recruiting men and women for key posts on his executive committee. The response has been good and one of the strongest U.J.A. teams in years has emerged.

Lawrence Freiman, president of the Zionist Organization of Canada is honorary chairman. Abe Palmer, a 1964 vice-chairman and a veteran campaigner will carry responsibility as associate campaign chairman. Joe Feller, Jarvis Freedman, Gilbert Greenberg, Norman Zagerman and David Zelikovitz are the five vice-chairmen with Morton Taller and Zeev Vered as co-treasurers.

Jules Loeb, general campaign chairman in 1964 is chairman of the Special Names Committee. His co-chairmen are A. Louis Achbar, Hyman Bessin, Alex Betcherman, Sam Caplan, Emmanuel M. Glatt, David Loeb, Mervin Mirsky, Morris



Arnold Lithwick

Zagerman and Solomon Zelikovitz.

Sol L. Gertsman is continuing as chairman of the Public Service Division for a second year. The Women's Division will be headed by Mrs. M. Ralph Berke and a new Young Men's Division has Zave M. Climan at its helm.

The presidents of beneficiary agencies who have a particular stake in the success of the campaign are also active participants in the policy-making group.

They include: Mervin Mirsky, Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir; Dr. Edward I. Shapiro, Ottawa Talmud Torah; Hyman Soloway, Q.C., Jewish Community Centre; Stanley L. Glube, Camp B'nai Brith; David Zelikovitz, United Israel Appeal; Mrs. Norman Torontow, Youth Aliyah.

Other Executive Committee members are Jack Aaron, Saul Ages, Dr. M. Ralph Berke, Morris Berlin, Sidney Cohen, Jacie C. Horwitz, Q.C., Norman Kizell, Mack Levin, Isaac Levine, Norman A. Loeb, Herbert Nadolny, Gordon Roston, Roy M. Saipé, J. Harold Shenkman, Isidore Stone, Joseph Svedlove, Nordau Vineberg, Louis Weiner and Maurice W. Wright, Q.C.

Dozens of others whose names will be listed in the next issue of this Bulletin will be involved in advisory positions or as members of numerous operating committees.

The United Jewish Appeal of Ottawa will seek to raise maximum gift dollars in April and May to meet the challenge posed by accelerated immigration into Israel, rescue and rehabilitation work in Europe and North Africa and the operating deficits of Jewish educational and recreational agencies in Ottawa.

Over 450 members of the Jewish community, augmented by family, friends, business associates and parliamentarians from many parts of Canada and the United States will gather at the Jewish Community Centre on Monday evening, April 5 to pay tribute to Alex Betcherman for a lifetime of leadership and service to Israel and the Jewish community.

This outpouring of affection and esteem for one of Ottawa's leading citizens will make the 1965 Ottawa Negev Dinner one of the most significant occasions of its kind in years. Bertram Loeb, chairman of the Negev Dinner Committee and officers of the sponsoring Jewish National Fund Council credit the excellent response to the popularity and stature of the guest of honour.

The roster of distinguished personalities who will participate in the proceedings is headed by The Hon. Paul Martin, P.C., M.P., Secretary of State for External Affairs. Mr. Martin's acceptance of the role of principal speaker is an indication of the regard he has for his friend of long standing.

Mr. Martin will be introduced by Lawrence Freiman, president of the Zionist Organization of Canada and thanked by Hyman Bessin, honorary president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir. Mervin Mirsky, president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir will convey the greetings of the Jewish community.

His Excellency Gershon Avner, Ambassador of Israel to Canada will speak for the State of Israel and Bernard M. Alexander, Q.C., founding president of Congregation Beth Shalom will bring greetings from the Synagogue Mr. Betcherman now heads.

Bertram Loeb will preside and Myer N. Drazin, chairman of the Jewish National Fund Council of Ottawa will present a testimonial plaque to the guest of honour. The invocation and hamotzie, the birkat hamazon and the closing benediction will be recited by Rabbis Simon L. Eckstein, Abraham Rubin and J. Benjamin Friedberg respectively.

A musical interlude by the Jewish Community Centre Choral Group under the direction of Rev. Joseph Rabin will round out the program. Mr. and Mrs. Betcherman and Mr. and Mrs. Loeb will receive the guests during the cocktail hour beginning at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:15 p.m.

The proceeds of the dinner will be used to establish a Jewish National Fund project in Israel which will link Mr. Betcherman's name with the soil of the Holy Land in perpetuity.

The Arrangements Committee for the Negev Dinner is composed of: Bertram Loeb, chairman; Hyman Bessin and Max Kizell, vice-chairmen; Harry Weldman, treasurer; David Zelikovitz, Nathan Zelikovitz and Jules Loeb, co-chairmen of Sponsors; Mrs. Isaac Levine, dinner and decorations; Jack Steinberg, Souvenir Booklet; Arnold Lithwick Mervin Mirsky and Hy Hochberg.

Many other individuals on the Sponsoring Committee have been at work on the project for weeks. Their efforts are appreciated and their names will be listed in the Souvenir Booklet to be published in conjunction with the event.



Alex Betcherman



Hon. Paul Martin, P.C., M.P.



Bertram Loeb



MERVIN MIRSKY ASSUMES COUNCIL PRESIDENCY

Hyman Bessin, retiring president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir (Jewish Community Council of Ottawa) congratulates Mervin Mirsky following his election as president at the 27th Annual General Meeting of the organization. Shown with them are the newly-elected officers who will direct the Vaad's operations during the coming year. From left to right: Maurice W. Wright, Q.C., vice-president; Arnold Lithwick, vice-president; Rudolph Appovite, treasurer; Dr. Boruch Diano, honorary secretary; Hy Hochberg, executive director and Jules Loeb, vice-president.



## Personally Speaking

By Mervin Mirsky  
President, Ottawa Vood Ha'Ir



It is with justified pride that on the many occasions when the matter is raised, we of the Ottawa Jewish community have been complimented on the way we accept our responsibilities. The money raised here for Jewish causes is an amount that gives us one of the highest per capita contributions of any community in North America.

This is good and as it should be.

However, what gives me personally equal pleasure — and I know brings a justifiable sense of pride to all of us, is the fact that we, the Jewish citizens of Ottawa, accept our civic responsibilities to an equal degree. Every call made on a Jewish member of the community by any justifiable charitable organization has always met with a response that has actually been shown to be even greater on a per capita basis than that contributed by his non-Jewish neighbour.

I don't think it is inaccurate to say that the near ideal relationship which we in Ottawa enjoy with the Christian community is in large measure due to our fairness and generosity.

The winds of change are now blowing even harder to eliminate the distances between ourselves and the Christian community. Possibly as a result of the Ecumenical Movement, the proffered hand of the Catholic community has been extended even further as was shown by a recent event.

The President of the Vaad along with many members of the Ottawa Jewish Community were invited by the Sisterhood of the Dominican Fathers' Church to be present at a Concert there to hear "Les Chantiers Dominicains". This group in itself is unique in that it is essentially a non-Jewish group led by a Cantor in interpreting Israeli and Jewish religious music. The group was conducted by Mr. Yehuda Vineberg of Montreal and had Cantor Otto O. Staeren as a soloist.

I doubt if more than one or two members of our community have ever been inside the precincts of the Dominican Fathers' Church. To those that did attend, this was not only interesting, but they were more than impressed at the sincerity of the cordial welcome given to them by the Dominican Fathers.

I think the conclusions to be drawn at the moment are as follows:

1. There is a definite movement on the part of our Christian neighbours — particularly the Catholic community — toward establishing a closer liaison with the Jewish community. Sometimes the spirit is embarrassingly hesitant, not because it is insincere, but because there is apprehension as to how it will be received. I would like to suggest that such offers be accepted promptly, enthusiastically and generously.

2. The trend indicated above should be accompanied by a reciprocal trend and some thought should be given to sharing some of our particularly meaningful experiences with our Christian neighbours.

3. We should all be pleased.

### ARE YOU MOVING?

#### Is Your Phone Number Changed?

For correct listings, mail this information to the Ottawa Jewish Telephone Directory, 292 Laurier Avenue East, Ottawa, for insertion in the new 1965 Directory now being prepared.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

### LAST OPPORTUNITY TO ENROLL IN THE NEW and EXCITING TOUR OF ISRAEL and EUROPE

FOR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN 16-22

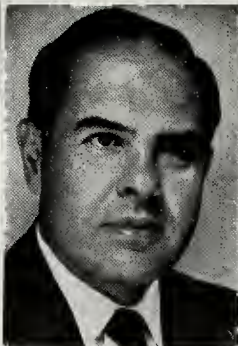
Leaving June 24 — Returning August 10

Seven ideal weeks in Israel, France, Italy and Switzerland.

Travel by air and by boat — \$990 U.S. complete.

Tour Leader: RABBI J. B. FRIEDBERG

Call Rabbi Friedberg for details



### Council Vice-President

Hyman Soloway, Q.C., president of the Jewish Community Centre was elected a vice-president of the Canadian Council of YMHA's and Jewish Community Centres at the conclusion of its two-day annual conference at Montreal. Serving with Mr. Soloway are Samuel J. Granatstein, Toronto, president; Saul H. Levine, Montreal and Yudi Henteleff, Winnipeg, vice-presidents; Max Stein, Hamilton, treasurer; Mrs. R. J. Rubin, Montreal and Melvin Soffer, Windsor, secretaries; David Andrews, Toronto, executive director.

### J.C.C. Receives A.A.U. Award For Top Achievement

The Amateur Athletic Union of the United States has awarded its "Certificate for Superior Achievement in the Physical Fitness Testing Program for 1965" to the Jewish Community Centre for the physical fitness program it conducts for pupils of the Hillel Academy.

The award was made by the A.A.U. because 100% of the children passed all six of the tests set to determine physical fitness.

Richard Guest, director of health and physical education conducts the program from the Centre's gymnasium.

## Commission on Assimilation and Intermarriage To Study Problem

The growing incidence of assimilation and intermarriage in Canadian and American cities has caused Jewish community leaders everywhere to take a serious look at the forces at work in their own communities.

In Ottawa, attempts to come to grips with the problem has resulted in the appointment by the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir, of a representative body composed of parents, Rabbis, teachers, communal workers and students. They have been charged with the responsibility of studying the trends in our own community and with developing recommendations for remedial action.

Dr. Abraham Hurtig, a former chairman of the Youth Committee of the Jewish Community Centre has been named chairman by Mervin Mirsky, president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir. Dr. Hurtig has approached his assignment with a great deal of sincerity, recognizing the far-reaching implications involved. He realizes that this is a long-range project and that any hope of success rests in education and a total mobilization of all resources and goodwill in the community.

Commission members include Mrs. Joel Barrett, Dr. M. Ralph Berke, Mrs. Hyman Bessin, Mrs. Horace Cohen, Morris S. Cohen, Sheila Dermer, Dr. Baruch Dina, Dr. Mark Dover, Mrs. Nathan Dreskin, Rabbi Simon L. Eckstein, Ephraim Frankel, Mrs. Jarvis Freedman, Rabbi J. Benjamin Friedberg, Elliott Gluck, Arnold Grant, Melvyn Green, M. Sidney Green, Mrs. Michael Greenberg, Hy Hochberg, Dr. Al Hoffman, Mrs. Morris Katz, Dr. Mortimer Katz, Stanley Katz, Mrs. Harry Katznelson.

Mrs. Isaac Levine, Mrs. Martin K. Levinson, Dr. Harvey Lithwick, Mrs. Bertram Loeb, Mervin Mirsky, David Molot, Dr. Lyon N. Pearlman, Mrs. Jack Rabinovitch, Harry Rosenberg, Rabbi Abraham Rubin, Dr. Edward I. Shapiro, Israel Shinder, Mrs. Mendel Shore, Moe Slack, Jack Steinberg, Joseph Swed.



Dr. Abraham Hurtig

love, Jack Vinokur, Mrs. Marcus Weinberger and Dan Zwicker.

At the initial meeting recently a frank appraisal of the entire situation was made and a number of excellent suggestions advanced. These will be explored in further detail in the weeks and months ahead. In the meantime, the Commission would appreciate the active interest and support of every member of the community. Anyone who has any suggestions to advance is encouraged to contact any member of the Commission.

### Bequest Left To Community Centre

The Jewish Community Centre has been informed that the late Letitia Maude Leech of Ottawa, who died on October 14, 1964, has left a bequest of \$500 in her will to the Jewish Community Centre.

Mrs. Leech was not Jewish.



### A MOMENT TO REMEMBER AT THE ZIONIST CONVENTION

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Freiman pause for a moment during the course of the historic 37th National Convention of the Zionist Organization of Canada held at Montreal and attended by over 800 delegates, 37 of them from Ottawa. As a mark of the esteem in which he is held by the Zionist constituency, Mr. Freiman, president of the organization from 1958-62, was returned to that office by unanimous vote of the assembly, the first time this has happened in the history of the Zionist Organization of Canada. Also elected to national office as honorary vice-presidents were Samuel Berger, Q.C. and Alex Betcherman.





### U.J.A. Women's Division Chairman

The appointment of Mrs. M. Ralph Berke as chairman of the Women's Division of the 1965 United Jewish Appeal has been announced jointly by general chairman Arnold Litwick and Mrs. Bernard M. Alexandor, chairman of the Women's Committee of the Vaad. She succeeds to the post held by Mrs. Ray M. Saipo last year. In her new capacity, Mrs. Berke will be enlisting the active support and participation of the women of the community in behalf of the important work of the United Jewish Appeal.

## Hold Rally On Parliament Hill Sunday, May 9

The Association of Former Concentration Camp Inmates with headquarters in Montreal will mark the 20th Anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps in Ottawa on Sunday, May 9.

This year's event will take place in the Parliament of Canada with the participation of the Prime Minister, the chiefs of the armed forces and representatives of organizations from across the country.

Wreaths will be laid at the War Memorial and memorial candles will be lit on Parliament Hill. Invitations have gone out to survivors and organizations across the country to attend the rally which will be addressed by the Prime Minister. A reception is also scheduled.

The assembly point is Parliament Hill at about 12:30 p.m. The Montreal and Toronto contingents are coming by motorcade from central locations in both cities.

Members of the Ottawa Jewish community are invited to attend the ceremony.



You are cordially invited to attend the

## Keynote Dinner

of the

## 1965 United Jewish Appeal

Sunday, May 16 at 7:00 P.M.

Jewish Community Centre

Guest of Honour

HIS EXCELLENCY MICHAEL S. COMAY

Ambassador of Israel to the United Nations

Guest Artists: MALKA and JOSO, international song stylists

\$5.00 per person

For reservations call 232-7306

### JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

## 2nd ANNUAL SPORTS DAY AND TRACK & FIELD MEET

SUNDAY, MAY 30

10:30 A.M. — 3:30 P.M.

R.C.A.F. Station Rockcliffe Tract

Track and field events for children, teenagers and adults. Prizes will be awarded. Entries at the field. It's all free!

CALL DICK GUEST AT 232-7306 FOR INFORMATION.

## A Letter to Parents of Children of Kindergarten Age

Dear Parents:

The Hillel Academy will this September mark the beginning of the seventeenth year of day school tuition in Ottawa and we know that with over 400 children in the school it is no longer necessary to "sell" the idea of an all-day school in this city.

However, there is one aspect of this optimum approach to Jewish education where we have been lax in keeping the community informed and this is with regard to our kindergartens.

You are aware that kindergarten attendance is not mandatory for enrollment of your children in grade 1 of the Hillel Academy, nor is it the intention of the Talmud Torah Board to change its policy in this regard. However, it has been our experience with the continued development and expansion of our kindergarten program that children entering grade 1 without having attended the Hillel Academy Kindergarten are at a distinct disadvantage with respect to their fellow pupils who have enjoyed this introduction to our program.

The reasons are obvious. We take advantage for example, in the kindergarten year (and to a lesser extent even in our nursery school) of the natural ability of children to pick up languages. By the end of the year, the child has a considerable basic vocabulary of Hebrew. He has learned to recognize Hebrew letters and many simple words. He has been introduced to numerous Jewish traditions and gained a goodly amount of Jewish lore.

There are many reasons why parents who intend to enroll their children in the Hillel Academy do not send them to our kindergarten. I know I didn't send my eldest child. I know now that this was a mistake which I will not repeat with my other children.

All this should not be taken to mean that the staff will not work diligently with your child who enters in grade one to eventually bring him to the level of the majority of his classmates who have attended our kindergarten.

Over 80 percent of our children attend our kindergartens. Give your child the advantage of being one of them.

Sincerely yours,

DR. SHAIJA BERMAN,  
Chairman, Education Committee,  
Ottawa Talmud Torah Board.



### AFFECTIONATE TRIBUTE ACCORDED TO ALEX BETCHERMAN

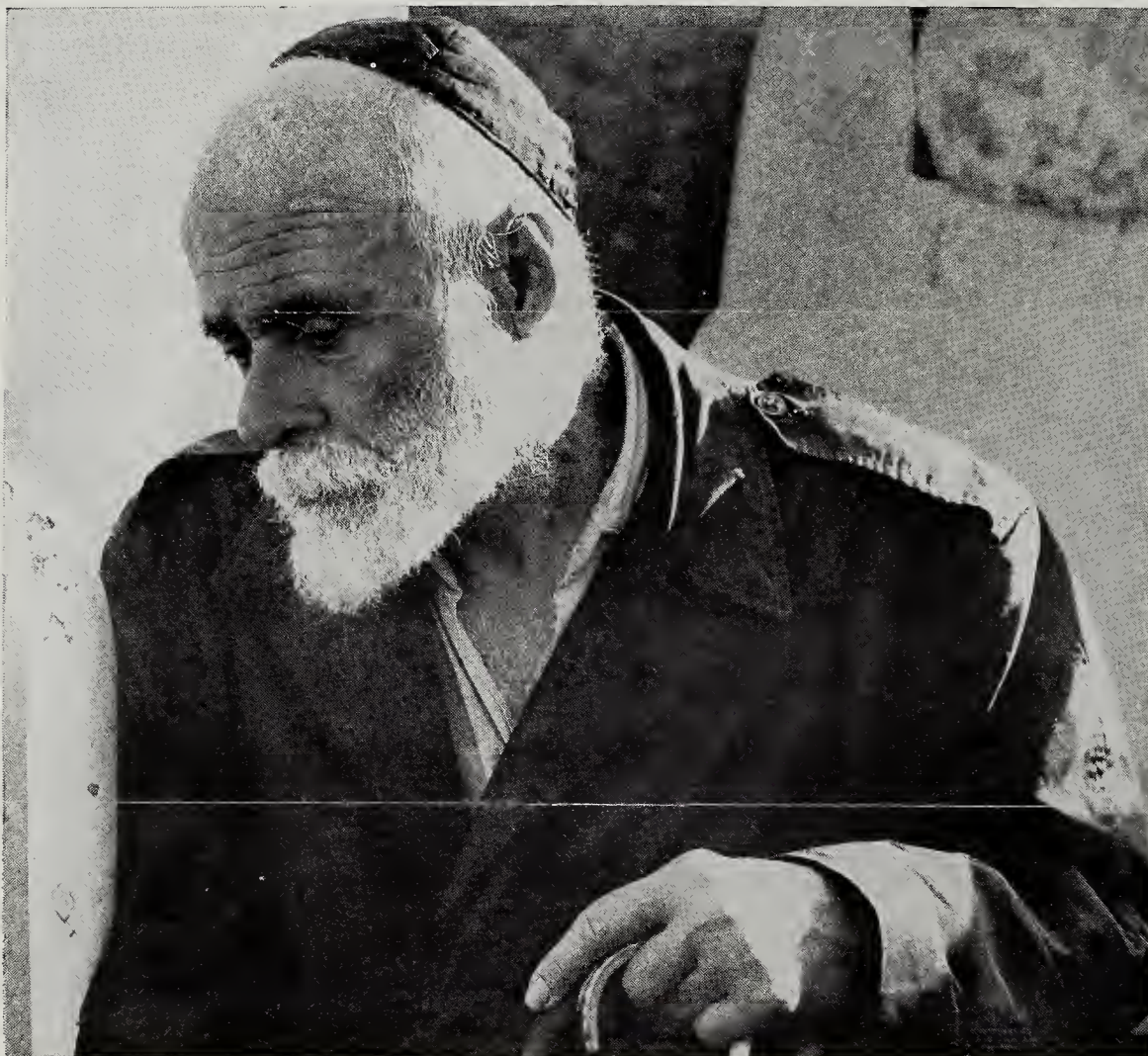
Over 450 members of the Jewish community, augmented by family, friends, business associates and parliamentarians from many parts of Canada and the United States attended the Alex Betcherman Negev Dinner on April 5 to pay tribute to the guest of honour "for his exemplary devotion over the course of many years to the welfare of the community, to the Zionist movement and the upbuilding of the State of Israel". The Hon. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs headed the roster of distinguished personalities who participated in the proceedings. Shown with Mr. and Mrs. Betcherman at the Jewish Community Centre are Bernard M. Alexandor, Q.C., honorary president, Congregation Beth Shalom; S. Laddie Kert, Montreal, chairman, Eastern Region, Jewish National Fund; Myer N. Drazin, chairman, Jewish National Fund Council of Ottawa who presented the Citation; Lawrence Freiman, president, Zionist Organization of Canada; His Excellency Gershan Avner, Ambassador of Israel to Canada; Bertram Loeb, chairman of the Negev Dinner Committee who presided; Mervin Mirsky, president, Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir and Hyman Bessin, honorary president, Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir. Proceeds of the dinner will be used to reclaim a tract of land in the Negev which will be known as Nachlat Alex Betcherman, thereby linking his name in perpetuity with the soil of Israel. Mr. Betcherman's nachla will be part of a larger complex called Nachlat Ottawa which is to be established with foundation gifts made at the dinner and in future.



### DEDICATE NEW KITCHEN IN MEMORY OF CHIEF GREENBERG

Congregation Machzikei Adas has dedicated its newly-equipped and remodelled kitchen in memory of the late Max "Chief" Greenberg. The project was one which Mr. Greenberg hoped to bring to fruition during his term as president of the Synagogue. The plaque of dedication, which will be placed in the Vestry, was accepted by Max Nadafny for the Congregation. The committee in charge is shown at the ceremony on April 4. From left to right: Mrs. Milton Kaffman, Mrs. Isidore Kordish, Mrs. Mervin Blustein, Max Nadafny, Rabbi Abraham Rubin, Rabbi Zev Litenatsky, Max Bardelay and Milton Kaffman.





## Israel doesn't say "too old!"

Another country might say to him, "too old." Israel doesn't. It says, "come!"

Israel's doors stand wide open to every Jew in need of haven — old or young, sick or well, skilled or penniless.

*In the last four years alone, Israel's people said "come" to 250,000.* With your help through the United Jewish Appeal — they did come. Now tens of thousands more need Israel — and you.

They need your help to get there, and to get on their feet, once they are there.

The old, the ill, those who suffered the worst that war and Hitler could inflict on them — need your help most of all.

Yes, Israel's people will still keep the doors open. But only you can keep the newcomers passing through those doors — now, while thousands still can come.

Give a generously increased gift. *Today!*

### IN 1965 UJA MUST GIVE LIFESAVING AID TO 741,650

**IN ISRAEL**—Help immigrants—new and old.

Give newcomers initial aid . . . and housing.

Absorb immigrants of previous years including:

- Aged and handicapped immigrants yearning for renewed usefulness.
- Young people in need of training.
- Farmers struggling for economic freedom.
- Unskilled newcomers in development towns.

**IN EUROPE, OTHER LANDS**—Sustain those in need.

Help with food, shelter, medical care, economic assistance and training for young and old.

Assist those who can emigrate to free lands.

Aid and resettle newcomers to Canada.

Underwrite Jewish Survival All Over the World

## United Jewish Appeal

FOR ISRAEL • OVERSEAS RELIEF • JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

### OTTAWA OBJECTIVE

## \$395,000.

Show you care — Give your share